

Memo from:

MARY DUDEN

Mr. Carter -

If there are any changes you want made in the letter, or if you want it entirely rewritten, please do not hesitate to let me know as I am most happy to do anything helpful.

January 6, 1944.

Letter No. 39.

2nd. Lt. Amon C. Carter, Jr., U. S. Army,
American P. O. W. #1595,
Interned at Oflag 64, Germany,
Via New York, N. Y., USA.

Dear Cowboy:

My, but the time rolls by quickly. I have been trying to write you a letter for the past week, but I have not been able to light long enough to do it. Mr. F. C. Green, an old friend of mine from Bowie died, and I spent Monday there. Sunday and Tuesday, as well as today there were a lot of guests in town and I have never as yet had an opportunity to read my Christmas mail, look over the Christmas cards and write my thank you letters to 100 or so people, who were nice enough to remember me at Christmas, so I trust you will accept my apology as I know you appreciate the fact that it is not a lack of interest or affection for you that has kept me from writing. I sent you letter No. 38 on December 23rd, which was your 24th birthday.

Christmas was very nice and interesting. We had eleven guests at the house for dinner and your placecard was at the 12th chair at the other end of the table (the north end). We all drank a toast to your good health and served your plate with turkey, dressing and plum pudding and served some excellent 1928 sauterne. In fact, we had a dandy dinner. Stanley cooked a tremendously big, fat turkey and we had all the embellishments that go with it. Prior to the dinner, Mrs. Deakins made some very fine eggnog from some good 18 year old bourbon, and although Dad is still on the wagon, from both the liquid standpoint as well as smoking until you return, I did enjoy the eggnog and the only thing that could have made Christmas more enjoyable or better would have been to have had your presence with us, which we hope will be possible for Christmas 1944. We had the customary number of Christmas parties and your sister Ruth had a grand time. We have many new boys located at this point in the various departments of the government, and she was very popular with all of them. Your sister has developed into a very beautiful young lady, and we certainly regretted to see her leave Monday the 3rd to return to school in New York. She will be back however in May at which time she will have finished three years and only have one year more to finish her degree. The place certainly seems lonesome without her and to have you both back here would be about the happiest day of my life, except the day you arrive.

Bowl games, etc. San Angelo wanted to play the State Championship game with Lufkin in Fort Worth, but the principal of the school in Lufkin, who incidentally was a former professor of the University of Texas, insisted on going to Dallas, so I called up Houston Harte, one of my friends in San Angelo and told him to make a good pep talk to the team just before the game and said I would give them \$250.00 if they would win the game, thus winning the State Championship. The Lufkin superintendent was not very nice to Fort Worth. They had a very small crowd and the majority of the fans from Lufkin were sore over the fact that they had to play in Dallas. Most of them wanted to come to Fort Worth.

Little Jimmy Ford, ex Amon Carter Riverside Highschool star was a star performer in the Sugar Bowl game.

I am leaving here on the 17th for New York and will be gone about a week to attend a meeting of the American Airlines.

Raymond Buck gave me a nice 250 pound fat hog which we are going to kill and have some spareribs, homemade sausage and backbone. I wish I could send all of it to you and your friends, including your guards. Billy Bob Watt has given me another young fat steer, which we will slaughter shortly as soon as we find available space in our ice machines. Incidentally, I am buying a big new ice machine for the farm where we can store several times as much as the one we have in the basement at home.

I told you in a previous letter about the stock that would be issued to you and you now own 500 shares in the company you used to work for. Your sister has the same amount. This was the stock which I asked you to write and thank your mother for her participation.

Quite a long time ago, I sent you a paper to sign to be witnessed by two of your Texas friends authorizing Mrs. Katrine Deakins to act as your legal representative. In other words this gives her Power of Attorney to transact business for you, which is necessary from time to time. I hope you have signed it and have it under way.

You stated in your letter of November 14 that you had received 20 letters from me and up to that time I had sent you 33 letters. I hope the other 13 have arrived by this time. I don't get an opportunity to write as often as I would like to, but I am trying to give you all the news we can send you in each letter. I hope you are getting along fine and that you have begun to pick up a little weight and feel better. I wonder if there would be any possible way for the German government to send us some new pictures of you as well as the other prisoners.

Take good care of yourself, take no chances of any kind under any circumstances, keep your chin up, make a good prisoner, and cause your guards as little inconvenience and trouble as possible.

your affectionate,

With heaps and heaps of love, I remain

I am sending a nice check to the hospital where you were born as well as to your church and minister. I wrote you in my last letter of contacting all the people mentioned in your previous letters. Incidentally, I had a nice letter from Mrs. S. A. Weigand of 1714 Northcott Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, stating that they had heard from Bob and that when you met him you stated, "Hello, ghost."

I stated in my last letter that Tex Hightower had had a bad accident and would not be with us any more. I find this must have been a mistake, for which I am very thankful. I also had a nice letter from Elkins of A & M in which he and Hightower as well as Red Talbot were all asking about you and also asked me to send you their best regards. Mary Talbot just had a letter from Pinky, which was mostly devoted to you and your dad. He had sent Mary a letter for her to address to you and the censor returned it.

Jean stated in her letter which she received from you dated November 14 that you had only received four letters from her, 47 from your mother, 20 from Dad, 15 from Ruth, and again in one of your other letters you stated you had received 125 letters. I am unable to see why you have not received Jean's letters as I know she has been writing you regularly and sending them to the proper address, so I am sure you will receive a bundle of them together if you have not already received them.

D. B. Green made a lot of pictures of Ruth, Katrine, and Dad the day Ruth left and as soon as we can have these reduced, we will send them to you. We invited Jean to come over and spend the day, but she could not come because her sister was there from Kansas City on a vacation and that was her last day. Otherwise, we would have had Jean in the pictures with Ruth, Dad and Katrine. I told you in my previous letter that I sent her one-half dozen pairs of nylon hose for Christmas, and she was tickled to death with them. Katrine has just handed me the small reproductions from some of the pictures made; one of Ruth and Dad, one of Ruth on the train, and one of Ruth and Katrine together with Stanley and Mabel, who as you know have been there almost all of your lifetime. They did not want to get in the picture, but I insisted on them doing so. I am sure that both of them think as much of you as anyone possibly could. Bill, Nanny and the new yard man, James, are all fine and send their love to you.

I just sent Phil North a cable extending him my best wishes and including your name in the cable. I sent Christmas flowers to Mrs. W. C. Stripling, Mrs. Ollie Burnett, Mrs. J. H. Nail, Mrs. D. T. Bomar, Mrs. B. S. Walker, Mrs. M. R. Sanguinet, and enclosed your card together with mine and Ruth's. All of them have sent nice letters of thanks and asked me to extend their thanks and love and best wishes to you.

Enclosed herewith you will also find a long letter from Flem Hall dated January 5, giving you all the football dope on the